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grees lower; and at the same time the air supplied to a theatre, hall, or church must have a temperature of from 60° to 80°. Hence the impossibility of meeting all requirements of both heating and ventilation with air from one supply source at a fixed temperature.

S. H. WOODBRIDGE.

Boston, March 20.

Sound-English.

In your review of my "Sound-English, a Language for the World," in your issue of March 21, you make some statements to which, I am sure, your well-known fairness will allow me to offer a correction.

You say that I propose "to introduce at first five new letters, to be followed by six more at a later time," and that you "gravely doubt if any system can be brought into use that contains new letters; and, if new letters are to be introduced, there are other systems that have quite as good a claim to be adopted" as mine.

Now, the fact is that I do not introduce a single new letter. I distinctly state it as my idea of the "requirements of a phonetic alphabet" (see p. 21) that "the present equipment of any printing-office must suffice, without the necessity of casting new types or even employing diacritical marks," and that "all the leading type-writers now in use must be adapted or easily adaptable to the new system without destroying their usefulness in writing the present spelling." My whole system is worked out in conformity with this principle. It is the principal claim I make for its superiority over other systems. If you will kindly turn to the "specimen page" from Macaulay's "History," on p. 51, you will not find a single sign which could not be set up to-day in any village newspaper-office between Maine and California.

To distinguish *a* in *at* from *a* in *ask*, I propose a slight alteration in the type, which may be effected with a penknife; but this is a trifling matter, so much the more as we do not require any distinction between the two sounds in ordinary reading-matter.

I do not know of any perfectly phonetic system of spelling in which the same result is attained, if we except Mr. Ellis's "Glossic;" but, then, he employs vowel digraphs, while I do not employ a single vowel digraph, excepting, of course, the three regular diphthongal sounds *ou*, *oi*, and *ai* (in *aisle*).

I do propose five very simple alterations for the script; and I say, further, that in course of time, when "Sound-English" will be firmly established, type-founders will provide us with

more appropriate forms to designate some of the sounds; and then, merely for the purpose of offering a complete system, I venture to suggest what these forms ought to be. But I am far from advocating their immediate introduction.

As for the expediency of designating the long vowels by full-faced type, and in script by shading, it is, of course, a matter of opinion. You think it an insurmountable obstacle; for, as you say, "who will take the trouble, in rapid writing, to shade now and then a letter more heavily than the rest?" Now, in the first place, "the rest" are not shaded at all in my system. In the second place, do not many systems of stenography distinguish sonant from surd consonants by shading? And do not stenographers write rapidly?

In conclusion, I beg to call attention to the fact that I employ full-faced type and shading not only for the long vowels, but also for designating the accent,—a feature which I think to be as important as it is original; for I do not know of any system of spelling, in any language, in which the accent is thus designated, symbolically, without employing a special sign.

I hope you will not consider this as a fault-finding review of your review, coming from an author who cannot bear adverse criticism. It is intended only as a courteous request for permission to lay my own statement of the facts before the select circle of thinkers who subscribe for your excellent journal.

A. KNOFLACH.

New York, March 28.

Do the Barclayan Descriptive Terms occasion Obscurity?

In the *American Naturalist* for October, 1889, p. 923, the notice of Stowell's cranial nerve studies concludes with the remark that "the adoption of the Wilderian adjectives and adverbs renders them somewhat pedantic and obscure." The title of this communication attributes to Barclay, the anatomical preceptor of Richard Owen, the exact descriptive terms which have been employed by many writers, and which I merely adopted in 1880 at the Boston meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The charge of pedantry is not new; but, as that is a matter of custom and taste, it may be overlooked. Since, however, the very purpose of the Barclayan toponymy was to eliminate the obscurity which lurks in every anatomical treatise or paper known to me in which those or equally exact descriptive terms are not used, I am anxious for specifications on this head, and trust they may be presented in response to this letter.

BURT G. WILDER.

Ithaca, N.Y., March 29.

**GAIN
ONE POUND
A Day.**

A GAIN OF A POUND A DAY IN THE CASE OF A MAN WHO HAS BECOME "ALL RUN DOWN," AND HAS BEGUN TO TAKE THAT REMARKABLE FLESH PRODUCER,

**SCOTT'S
EMULSION**

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